Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 22, lines 15-28 with the following replacement paragraph.

HLA-A2 is the most common allele expressed in Caucasions. The CTL epitopes of Mart-1/MelanA have been defined for this allele. The antigenic peptide recognized by the majority of human CTL lines comprises amino acids 27-35 AAGIGILTV of SEQ ID NO:5 (Kawakami et al., J. Exp. Med. 180:347 (1994)). In addition, studies on the affinity of binding with HLA-A*0201 and recognition by CTL clones have demonstrated that the optimum peptide for these two functions is the 26-35 decapeptide EAAGIGILTV of SEQ ID NO:6 (Romero et al., J. Immunol. 159:2366 (1997)). However, it appears that these peptides are weakly immunogenic in vitro (Valmori et al., J. Immunol. 160:1750 (1998)) and in vivo (Jaeger et al., Int. J. Cancer 66:162 (1996)).

Please replace the paragraph on page 23, lines 5-32 with the following replacement paragraph.

The hELA peptide, used in the experiments below, is the subject of patent application WO 98/58951 which is the property of the Institut Ludwig de Recherche sur le Cancer [Ludwig Cancer Research Institute]. hELA is an analog of the 26-35 decapeptide (EAAGIGILTV of SEQ ID NO:6) of Melan-A/MART-1, which is a protein expressed on melanocytes and melanomas. Although the 26-35 decapeptide of Melan-A/MART-

1 is capable of binding to the HLA-A0201 molecule (Romero et al., 1997, J. Immunol. 159, 2366-2374), it is weakly immunogenic in vitro and in vivo (Valmori et al., 1998, J. Immunol. 160, 1750-1758). The hELA analog was generated by substituting the second amino acid of the 26-35 decapeptide of Melan-A/MART-1(an alanine) with a leucine. The result of this substitution, which is based on analysis of the residues required for anchoring the peptides to the HLA-A0201 molecule, is more effective recognition by the CTLs of patients with melanoma and better immunogenicity in vitro (Valmori et al., 1998, J. Immunol. 160, 1750-1758). HLA-A*0201/Kb (A2/Kb) transgenic mice of the strain C57Bl/6 x BDA/2 (Vitiello, et al., 1991, J. Exp. Med., 173, 1007-1015) were used in this study to test ELA. The class I MHC molecule expressed in these mice is a chimeric molecule made from the α1 and α2 domains of the human HLA-A0201 molecule (the most common allotype found) and from the α3 domain of the murine K^b molecule.